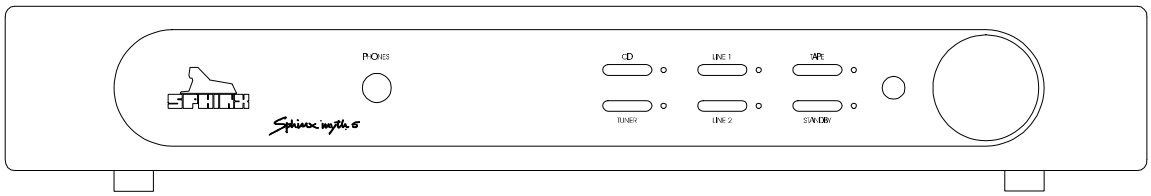
USER MANUAL

MYTH 5

INTEGRATED STEREO AMPLIFIER



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Congratulations with your purchase of the Sphinx Myth 5!

You are now a member of an ever increasing group of quality conscious audiophiles using Sphinx products.
We are very proud of the tradition connected with the SPHINX name especially concerning audio quality perfection.
This manual will help you to gain a maximum amount of pleasure and quality from your new Sphinx Myth 5 Integrated Stereo Amplifier.

This integrated high end stereo amplifier is of discrete design throughout (no IC's are used).
The Myth 5 uses an active pre-amp, that is built around Dual FET's.
The power amp use specially selected power FET's with an power bandwidth of over 20 MHz, a very fast slew rate and an unsurpassed phase linearity over the power bandwidth. The amplifiers therefore are very stable and can effortlessly drive *every* type and format of loudspeaker (even the most complex ones such as electrostatic and magnetostatic...) at maximum quality.
The amp outputs are sent to the loudspeaker connectors via heavy duty, completely gold-plated relays.

With the optional Remote Control you may select the inputs, the tape monitor function, control the volume and activate the standby function.

To obtain the maximum quality from this integrated amp it is necessary to use it with top quality audio components. So preferably use it with other Sphinx components.

Please read this manual carefully before you install or use the Myth 5. It is important to familiarise yourself with the special functions, operation and possibilities of the Sphinx Myth 5.

Your local dealer will be able to answer any questions concerning other Sphinx audio components.

1. UNPACKING

Before leaving the factory every Myth 5 is subjected to stringent and extensive technical and exterior quality inspections.
This ensures you will enjoy many years of high quality audio from a perfect looking product.

After unpacking your Myth 5 we therefore recommend you carefully check it for any transport damage.
In case of damage: please contact your Sphinx dealer immediately and retain all packing materials for possible proof of damage and possible claims.

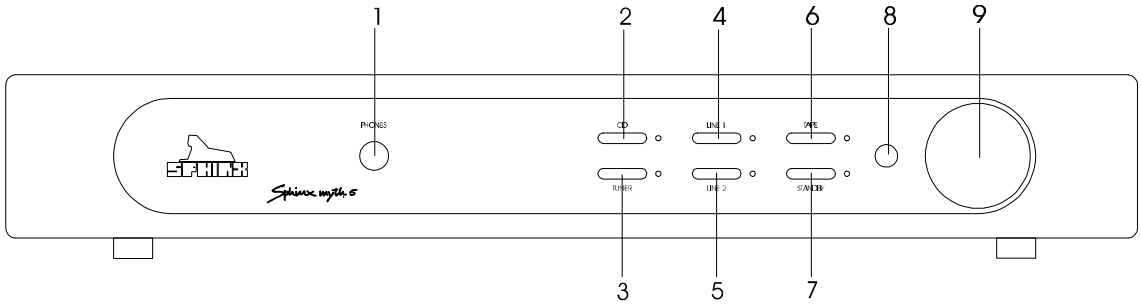
Even if the component is in perfect condition you still should keep the packing materials. If you need to transport your Myth 5 at a later time it will be best protected by the original packing materials.

2. SPHINX WARRANTY CARD

Please take this opportunity to fill out the enclosed warranty card now!
Follow the instructions on the card or consult your dealer.
Please send the card as soon as possible to the return address (within 14 days after purchase).

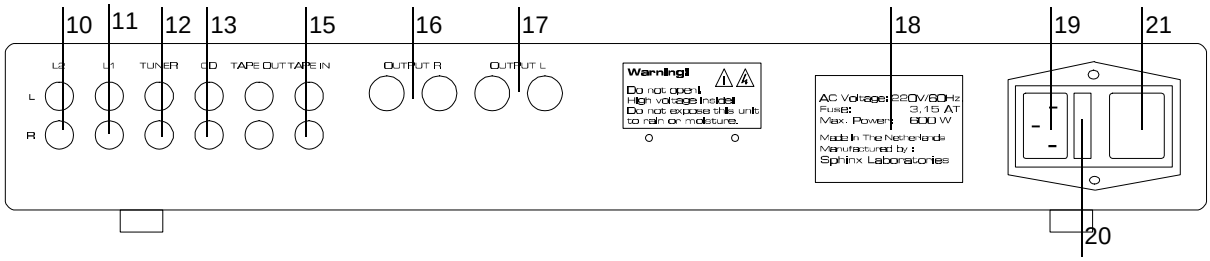
3. THE AMP AT A GLANCE

Front panel



1. **PHONES:** To connect dynamic stereo headphones.
2. **CD:** To select the CD input.
3. **TUNER:** To select the TUNER input.
4. **LINE 1:** To select the LINE 1 input.
5. **LINE 2:** To select the LINE 2 input.
6. **TAPE:** To select the TAPE IN input.
   As soon as you have pressed one of the buttons 2. to 6. the corresponding red LED next to it will light.
7. **STANDBY:** Press this button to temporarily standby the sound. The red LED will light.
8. **Sensor window** for the IR signal from the Remote Control
9. **VOLUME:** With this motor controlled knob you may adjust the volume of the loudspeakers. The volume can be controlled manually or via the optional Remote Control.

Rear panel



10. **L2:** To connect the cinch signal cable from the signal source for LINE 2.
11. **L1:** To connect the cinch signal cable from the signal source for LINE 1.
12. **TUNER:** To connect the cinch signal cable from the tuner.
13. **CD:** To connect the cinch signal cable from the CD player.
14. **TAPE OUT:** Connect this output to the Input of the recorder.
15. **TAPE IN:** Connect this input to the output of the recorder.
16. **RIGHT OUTPUT:** To connect the cable from the right loudspeaker:
    red **+**
    black **-**
17. **LEFT OUTPUT:** To connect the cable from the left loudspeaker:
    red **+**
    black **-**
18. **Manufacturers label:** This shows important data for the component such as serial number and mains power voltage.
19. **AC Power**: Connect the mains cable to a mains power outlet (100 - 240 VAC).
20. **Fuse holder**: Contains a fuse.
21. **ON/OFF**: This is the mains power switch.

4. INSTALLATION AND CONNECTIONS

Installation

Make sure you place the Myth 5 on a stable and sturdy support, it weights more than 8 kg!

The Myth 5 will become warm so correct placement is critical. Do *not* position it on top of or close to other heat radiating equipment (such as other power amps) or in direct sunlight.

Please ensure unrestricted ventilation around the component.

If you need to use the amp in a closed cabinet or on a bookshelf you absolutely should provide unrestricted ventilation around the component..

To prevent any possible interference keep power supply cables away from all audio cables.

If all these conditions are met the Myth 5 shall perform to the extremely high standards it is designed for.

Connecting the mains cable

Before you connect the cable please check whether the mains voltage indicated on the manufacturers label on the rear panel is the same as your local mains voltage.
If not: please contact your dealer and do not connect the component to the mains.

You switch the amp on or off with the ON/OFF switch (21.). The amplifier can be left switched on. This way the electronic circuits will be kept at optimum working temperature so you can enjoy maximum audio quality immediately after switching on. On top of that it significantly increases the life span of the component.

Connect the mains cable after you have connected all other components in the system and have double-checked all connections.

Audio connections

Before you start connecting equipment it is always wise to check whether all mains power cables of all components are disconnected from the mains outlets!
This will prevent any damage to the loudspeakers and amplifiers caused by incorrect wiring or settings.

Make sure you connect L and R properly. Most cinch cables use red for the right channel and white or black for left.
All cinch connectors on the Myth 5's rear panel have a red centre for the right channel and a white one for the left channel
When making the connections please refer to the descriptions for parts 10. up to 21. on page 5.

Connecting loudspeakers

We recommend using a double pair of cables if this is possible with the loudspeakers used (one pair for the highs and another for the lows).
In most cases you will hear a substantial improvement in the sound quality (but: be careful to prevent shorted connections).
Your dealer can recommend the best cables and connection methods.

Connect the red RIGHT OUTPUT terminal (16.) to the red or '**+**' terminal of the right loudspeaker.
Connect the black RIGHT OUTPUT terminal (16.) to the black or '**–**' terminal of the right loudspeaker.
Connect the left loudspeaker in the same way to the LEFT OUTPUT terminals (17.)
When using unterminated cables please check carefully if there are no 'loose ends' cause a short between the '**+**' and the '**–**' of the terminals on amp and loudspeakers!

Connecting headphones

You can connect normal dynamic stereo headphones to the PHONES 6.3 mm jack (1.).
The output has more than enough power to drive even the most demanding headphones.
You can control the level with the VOLUME control (9.).
The STANDBY function (7.) does not work for the headphones.
Note: The loudspeakers are not automatically deactivated when you connect headphones. So you may leave the headphones permanently connected.

Connecting the inputs

The amp has five unbalanced inputs.
The unbalanced line inputs are:

LINE 1 and	
LINE 2	for any unbalanced line signal,
TUNER	for a tuner,
CD	for a CD player,
TAPE IN	for a recorder.

Connecting a recorder

Connect the *input* of the recorder to the TAPE OUT output (14.)
Any input signal selected with buttons 2., 3., 4. or 5. and which you will hear via the loudspeakers is also sent to this output.

Connect the *output* of the recorder to the TAPE IN input (15.)

Connecting a turntable

There is no specific RIAA phono-input. When using a turntable you should pre-amplify the signal with a separate phono pre-amp (or *pre-pre-amp*).
Connect the unbalanced output of a phono pre-amp to one of the cinch inputs LINE 1 or LINE 2.

Connecting a CD player

Connect the unbalanced output of a CD player to the CD input (13.).

Connecting a tuner

Connect the unbalanced output of a tuner to the TUNER input (12.).

Connecting other signal sources

LINE 1 and LINE 2 are available for any other signal sources.

5. OPERATION

After you have finished connecting all components, you can switch on the Myth 5.

Connect the mains cable to a mains outlet.
Turn the volume control to 'off' (fully counter-clockwise).

Power on

Switch the Myth 5 on with the ON/OFF switch (21.) on the rear panel.
The red LED next to the STANDBY button will blink. After a few seconds the CD input is selected: the re LED next to CD (2.) will illuminate.

The Myth 5 is now switched on and ready for use.

You can leave the amp on. That way all circuits will remain at optimum operating temperatures and the audio quality will be at 100% immediately after switching on. On top of that it significantly increases the life span of the component.
Only if the amp will not be used for a longer period you might switch it off with the ON/OFF switch (21.) to save energy.

Selecting an input

You select the input with one of the buttons 2. to 6. As soon as you have selected an input, the red LED next to the button will illuminate.

CD **:** To select the CD input.

TUNER **:** To select the TUNER input.

LINE 1 **:** To select the L1 input.

LINE 2 **:** To select the L2 input.

Tape button

Pressing the TAPE button in the front panel (6.) selects the TAPE IN input.
After you press PLAY on the recorder you will hear the recorded signal.

If you record a tape this button lets you compare the input signal (as selected with button 2., 3., 4. or 5.) to the signal from the recorder:
IN (LED red) signal from tape
OUT (LED off) signal from selected input

When using a 3-head recorder you are thus able to compare the original signal with the actual recorded signal (you'll hear the 'off-tape' signal which might be slightly delayed).

Adjusting the volume

With the large VOLUME control (9.) you can adjust the sound level from the loudspeakers.
This volume control is motor controlled. So even if you adjust the volume on the Remote Control the knob will automatically turn. The position of the knob therefore always correctly indicates the set volume.

Standby button

The STANDBY button (7.) temporarily standbys the sound from the loudspeakers: the red LED will light. Another press on the button un-standby the sound, the LED extinguishes.
You may also use this button when you listen via headphones and would like to switch the loudspeakers off. The Standby function has no influence on the signal to the headphones.
This function can also be controlled via the Remote control.
Switch the Myth 5 temporarily off (to stand-by) with the STANDBY button (7.).
When the Myth 5 will not be used for a longer period, you may switch it off completely with the ON/OFF switch (21.).

Amplifier switches to Protection Mode...

Indication: Standby LED blinks rapidly and volume control automatically turns to “zero” (fully counter clockwise).

N.B.: Switch power off with the ON/OFF switch (21.) and wait for at least 60 seconds. In the mean time check all loudspeaker cables for shorted wires! If you find any, remove this short to insure fault-free connection.

Now switch the power on with the the ON/OFF switch. If the amplifier itself is not defective it will operate normally again after 30 seconds.

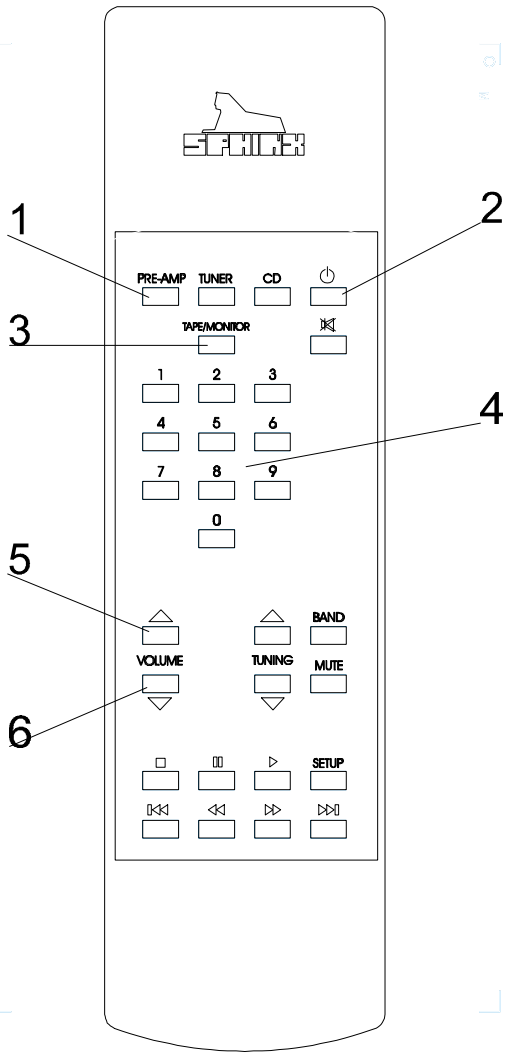
6. SPHINX REMOTE CONTROL

This single Sphinx Remote Control lets you control all functions: not only of the Myth 5, but of all other Sphinx equipment.

Only the following buttons and indications of the Remote apply to the Myth 5 (the others will not function):

Buttons and LED indication

1. **PRE-AMP:** To select the amp. All buttons pressed hereafter will only control the amp functions.
   The buttons TUNER, CD and 🔇 will have no effect on the amp.
2. **STANDBY:** Use this red button to switch the loudspeaker outputs of the Myth 5 off (stand-by). Pressing this button has the same effect as pressing the MUTE button on the front panel. The headphone output will remain active though!
3. **TAPE/MONITOR:** Use this button to select the Tape IN input. Pressing this button has the same effect as pressing the TAPE button on the front panel.
   Note: The LED of the selected input (see 4.) will remain illuminated.
4. **1 - 4:** To select inputs CD to Line 2 (*Note: 5 to 0 do not function*):
   1 CD
   2 Tuner
   3 Line 1
   4 Line 2
5. **Volume ⇧:** Pressing this button has the same effect as clockwise rotating the VOLUME control on the front panel. You will increase the volume.
6. **Volume ⇩:** Pressing this button has the same effect as anti-clockwise rotating the VOLUME control on the front panel. You will decrease the volume.



Operation

The Sphinx Remote is used for several different models and can therefore transmit different control codes, depending on which model has been selected with the select buttons (3.).
Important: Always press the AMP button before you send a command (even if you only have one Sphinx component).
Otherwise it is possible that although the Remote will send a signal (LED blinks) nothing happens because the transmitted signal is not 'recognised' by the component.
Indoors the Remote may be used up to a distance of 7 meter, provided there is no strong sunlight in the room and if you aim the Remote at the component. Always aim the Remote straight at the front panel of the component, the maximum offset angle is 30°.

Selecting without switching

Suppose for instance that you would like to select the Tuner to Radio 4 without interrupting the CD playback.
In that case you momentarily depress (not longer than 0.5 sec) the 'TUNER' button and the '4' button. The same procedure is used for the other system components (TV, VCR).
Only when you depress the select button longer than 0.5 sec the system will select a different signal source (in our example you will then hear the Tuner playback).

Batteries

The two batteries have a life span of approx. one year during normal use, but shorter when used more intensely.
Replacement batteries: 1.5 V, model *micro* or *penlite* or *LR03* or *AAA* or *AM4* (one of these codes is indicated on the packaging and the batteries). You may also use rechargeable 1.5 V batteries.

Note: *Position the new batteries exactly as shown in the illustration at the bottom of the battery compartment, otherwise the Remote will not function!*

When encountering problems...

Remote Control does not work	
Wrong component selected	Select the correct one
Distance to component exceeds 7 m	Use Remote at closer range
Angle between Remote and component exceeds ±30°	Decrease angle
Sensor window on front dirty	Clean window
Batteries empty or incorrectly placed	use new batteries or replace the old correctly
Strong (sun)light in room	Shade off
Component is not switched on (!)	Switch it on

Component reacts differently than expected or not at all	
Wrong component selected	Select the correct one
Component or Remote does not function	Check component with it's original remote
Batteries of remote empty	Use new batteries

7. CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Clean the exterior with a soft, lint-free, anti-static cloth. Do not use force while wiping the surface. To remove difficult stains use a few drops of detergent on a moist cloth, sweep carefully and wipe dry afterwards.

If some scratching occurs, please first consult your Sphinx dealer. He can give you advice about possible solutions.

Do not use polishing or cleaning agents: they may damage the sensitive acrylic finish.

Do not use aerosol cleaning agents.
Most contain solvents which might actively react and damage the acrylic finish.

8. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Bandwidth	10 - 190,000 Hz (+0/-3 dB)
Phase response error	<1° (from 0 - 20,000 Hz)
Gain	40.5 dB max. (102.3 times)
Minimum Power Output (1 - 20.000 Hz)	>2x 74 W into 8 Ω (18.7 dBW), THD <0.01%
	>2x 115 W into 4 Ω (20.6 dBW), THD <0.01%
	>2x 144 W into 2 Ω (21.6 dBW), THD <0.01%
Output voltage / current, max.	23 V / 20 A
THD+N (IHF-A)	<0.006% (2^{nd} harm., 10 - 20,000 Hz)
IMD	<0.030%
S/N ratio (IHF-A)	>95 dB
Channel separation	>68 dB (1 - 20,000 Hz)
Slew rate	>24 V/µs
Damping factor	>650 (1 - 1,000 Hz)
Inputs	
cinch, unbalanced	1x Line 2, 1x Line 1, 1x CD, 1x Tuner, 1x Tape
level, nominal	1.25 V
impedance	20 kΩ
Outputs	
cinch	1x Tape
headphones	1x 6.3 mm stereo jack, adjustable level
clamp	1x loudspeaker L, 1x loudspeaker R
Supply capacitance	35,200 µF total
Power consumption	600 W max.
Dimensions (h x w x d)	73 x 434 x 350 mm
Weight	8 kg

This unit conforms to the EMC interference regulations from the EU and to the CE standards.
This unit complies with safety regulation VDE 0860 and thus with international safety regulation IEC 65.

Technical specifications can be changed by SPHINX without prior notice if technical developments make this necessary.

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